

~~Speaker Registration/Testimony~~

Name Willis Yap
 Phone 8082255588
 Email yap.willis@gmail.com
 Meeting Date 06-28-2017
 Council/PH Committee Budget
 Agenda Item CB52
 Your position on the matter Oppose
 Representing Self
 Organization
 Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

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Written
Testimony

As an owner of a property designated in 2007 as historic consisting of 3 smaller cottages and located at 934 8th Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816, I oppose this bill raising the property tax to \$1,000 per year. The costs, work and time involved in maintaining the buildings and surrounding landscape are substantial. It's a passion of mine to try and keep the character of the traditional "Hawaiian Cottage" intact and attractive for aesthetic and cultural reasons as the 5th generation of my wife's family currently resides in one of the cottages. Over the past 10 years since designation, I've had expenses unique to maintaining an older home. For example, I just replaced 17 wooden window screens at a cost of almost \$6,000 dollars because of using specially milled redwood and stainless steel hardware to keep these replacement windows in "character" with the structure. It would have been so much cheaper and easier to simply replace with aluminum screens or cheap lumber but I take great pride in keeping my house as close to original condition as possible. If you were to visit our property, you would see that for an owner of a historic home, it is pride of ownership that is the source of this loving care. While I can understand the City's desire to raise more money, you should give careful consideration to encouraging homeowners to keep and maintain their unique properties as they are, rather than having them torn down and replaced with the mundane and ordinary.

Testimony
 Attachment
 Accept Terms
 and Agreement 1